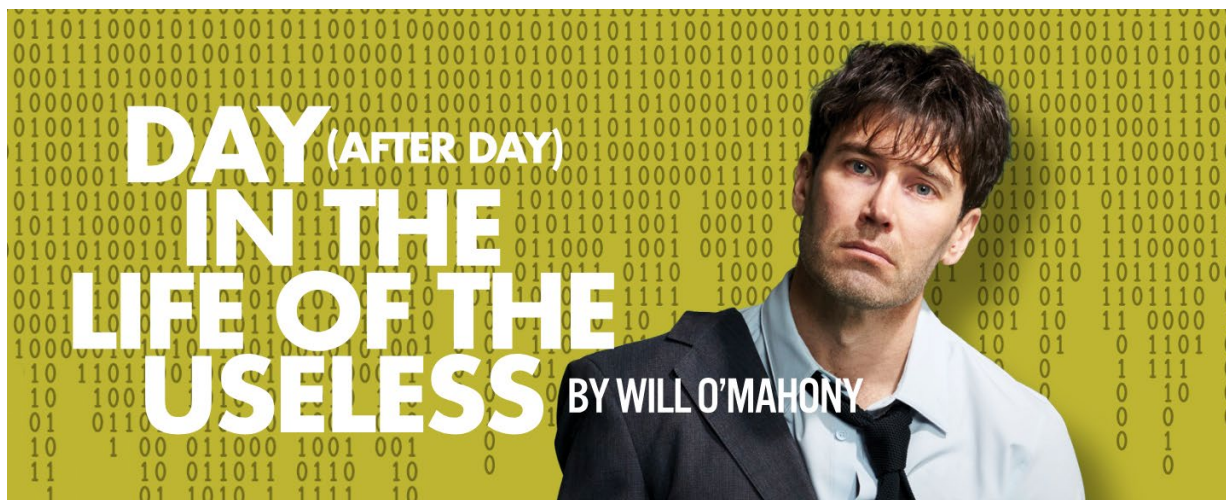

A Black Swan State Theatre Commission and World Premiere



When life is falling apart, can AI help mend a broken heart?

Black Swan State Theatre Company presents the world premiere of *Day (After Day) In The Life Of The Useless*, a razor sharp and unexpectedly moving new comedy from acclaimed Western Australian playwright and performer **Will O'Mahony**, playing at the Heath Ledger Theatre from **29 August to 20 September**.

What is the best way to get over an ex? For Pete, the answer is surprisingly simple. After being dumped just days before his wedding - his fiancée calling him "a robot" before leaving for a new lover - he turns to artificial intelligence for guidance.

"The best revenge is living well," the chatbot replies in just 1.49 seconds. If only it were that easy.

Directed by Adam Mitchell and performed by a cast of five, this brand-new Black Swan commission follows Pete as he attempts to rebuild his life one spectacular misstep at a time. What unfolds is a wildly entertaining spiral of disastrous own goals, awkward encounters and crushing bad luck. *Day (After Day) In The Life Of The Useless* explores broken hearts, obsolescence, and the absurd and terrifying comforts of living in-step with AI.

Will O'Mahony's signature blend of incisive humour and emotional honesty shines through in this timely new work, offering a deeply relatable portrait of what it means to start over when life refuses to follow the script.

O'Mahony says the play examines the messy reality of trying to move forward after life takes an unexpected turn.

"When it rains, it pours. When things go wrong, they often go wrong all at once and, despite our best efforts, nothing can hold back the tide. This play I hope is many things but I think of one of them is the sheer heroism in trying to course correct a life that has been knocked silly."

O'Mahony says he hopes audiences recognise something of themselves in Pete's 'fish out of water' experience.

"Pete wakes up to a world that looks the same, sounds the same, but is decidedly not the same. Yet despite getting almost everything wrong, he keeps showing up, he keeps giving his best — as flawed and human as those 'bests' may be. I think that's something we can all relate to, even admire. The absurd resilience in getting up tomorrow and having another crack, even when we're battered and bruised and seemingly cursed."

Darkly funny, but painfully true, *Day (After Day) In The Life Of The Useless* asks questions that are both timely and timeless: What happens when life doesn't go to plan? Can you hold onto yourself, let alone reinvent yourself, when everything is falling apart? How does a human rest and recover when we've built a relentless network that refuses to slow down? And are our AI overlords already among us, hiding in plain sight?

CAST

Tess Bowers | Nathaniel Langworthy | Steve Le Marquand | Catherine Moore | Will O'Mahony

CREATIVES

Written by Will O'Mahony | Director: Adam Mitchell | Associate Director: Will O'Mahony | Set Designer: Fiona Bruce | Costume Designer: Rhiannon Walker | Lighting & Video Designer: Mark Haslam | Composer and Sound Designer: Ash Gibson Greig | Dramaturg: Chris Isaacs | Stage Manager: Shannen Moulton | Assistant Stage Manager: Beth Walters

SEASON DETAILS

Venue: Heath Ledger Theatre, STCWA
Duration: 1 hour 45 mins (no interval)
Dates: 29 August to 20 September
Tickets: On sale now at blackswantheatre.com.au

Warnings: Contains coarse language, references to suicide, and mild violence

For media inquiries, interviews, images and further information, please contact:
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About Black Swan State Theatre Company of WA

Black Swan is Western Australia's flagship theatre company, committed to presenting bold, engaging, and culturally rich storytelling. Through innovative programming, community engagement, and a commitment to accessibility, Black Swan continues to push the boundaries of contemporary theatre in Australia.